

## Message Text

PAGE 01 BANGKO 19403 150717Z

11  
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W  
----- 010753

R 150627Z DEC 73  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9031  
INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY MANILA  
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
N/AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE 4674  
AMEMBASSY SAIGON  
AMEMBASSY RANGOON  
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

S E C R E T BANGKOK 19403

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, TH, VN, XC  
SUBJECT: PROPOSED SEA APPEAL TO NVN

1. IT HAS OCCURED TO ME, AS A RESULT OF IMPRESSIONS  
GAINED DURING INITIAL TALKS WITH THAIS AND CERTAIN OF  
MY DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES, THAT THERE MIGHT BE SOME  
MERIT IN TRYING TO GET SYMPATHETIC SOUTHEAST ASIAN  
GOVERNMENTS TO USE ADVENT OF NEW YEAR TO ISSUE  
PEACE APPEALS TO NORTH VIETNAM. (THOUGH SOME COUNTRIES  
IN THE AREA FOLLOW DIFFERENT CALENDARS, JANUARY FIRST  
HAS MORE SIGNIFICANCE AND COULD PERHAPS BE  
USED AS PEG FOR APPEAL, THE APPEAL COULD BE BASED ON NEED TO  
ELIMINATE HUMAN SUFFERING, ON ARGUMENT THAT MUCH MORE  
IS TO BE GAINED BY ALL NATIONS IN THIS AREA FROM LIVING  
IN PEACE AND HARMONY THAN THROGH STRIFE AND BULLETS, AND  
THAT ALL NATIONS OF SEA SHOULD, WITH ADVENT OF NEW YEAR,  
DEDICATE THEMSELVES TO PEACE AND TO UTILIZATION OF THEIR  
RESOURCES TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS OF THEIR PEOPLE. THIS  
APPEAL TO HANOI COULD BE UNIFIED OR SEPARATE, BUT IN ANY  
SECRET

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EVENT SHOULD BE CLOSELY COORDINATED AND COULD TAKE  
INTO ACCOUNT THE INDIVIDUAL PROBLEMS AND PREOCCUPATIONS  
VIS-A-VIS NVN WHICH VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN THE AREA HAVE.  
THE INITIATIVE, IF IT MATERIALIZES, SHOULD APPEAR WHOLLY SOUTHEAST

ASIAN IN CHARACTER AND BE BASED ON THEIR OWN  
LEGITIMATE INTERESTS. US ENCOURAGEMENT SHOULD BE CAREFULLY CONCEALED.

2. I RECOGNIZE THERE ARE MANY REASONS MITIGATING AGAINST  
SUCCESS FOR SUCH AN APPEAL. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE  
INITIATIVE PROVIDES THE SOUTHEAST ASIANS WITH ANOTHER  
OPPORTUNITY TO WORK JOINTLY AND RESPONSIBLY IN TACKLING  
THEIR OWN PROBLEMS, IN A WAY SOMEWHAT SIMILAR TO THEIR COORDINATED  
EFFORT TO POSTPONE DEBATE ON THE KHMER ISSUE AT UNGA. A JOINT  
SOUTHEAST ASIAN APPEAL WOULD HAVE THE ADDITIONAL ADVANTAGE  
OF PLACING MORAL PRESSURE UPON NORTH VIETNAM. IF, AS  
ANTICIPATED, HANOI'S RESPONSE IS NEGATIVE, AT LEAST IT WOULD  
AGAIN BE OBVIOUS WHERE PROBLEM IS.

3. IF THIS COURSE OF ACTION MEETS APPROVAL AMONG OURSELVES,  
WE MIGHT IDENTIFY ONE OF THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES WHICH COULD  
TAKE THE LEAD IN COORDINATING THE GENERAL APPROACH WITH THEIR  
NEIGHBORS. WOULD WELCOME COMMENTS OF INFORMATION ADDRESSEES.  
KINTNER

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PROPOSED SEA APPEAL TO NVN  
**TAGS:** PEPR, TH, VN, XC  
**To:** STATE INFO KUALA LUMPUR  
MANILA  
PHNOM PENH  
JAKARTA  
N SINGAPORE  
SAIGON  
RANGOON

VIENTIANE

Type: TE

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